

Message Text

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ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25

NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAI-01 IO-13 OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00

ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /153 W
----- 025796

P R 221422 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9296

INFO SECDEF/ WASHDC PRIORITY

MBFR CAPITALS 591

USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR/ SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

USCINCEUR

USDEL SALT TWO II

AMEMBASSY ATHENS UNN

AMEMBASSY MADRID UNN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA UNN

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE UNN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI UNN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE UNN

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 VIENNA 5195

GENEVA FOR DISTO

FROM US REP MBFR

EO: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM

SUBJ: MEETING OF DANISH AND US REPS WITH SOVIET AND CZECH REPS,
JUNE 20

BEGIN SUMMARY:

SECRET

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1. SOVIET REP AGREED RECOMMEND TO EASTERN GROUP WESTERN PROPOSAL
PUT TO HIM BY DANISH REP TO CONSIDER JUNE 28 AS TARGET DATE FOR
FINAL PLENARY. HE ALSO AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO EASTERN GROUP PRO-
POSAL TO ISSUE A JOINT PRESS RELEASE THAT A PLENARY WOULD BE HELD

" SHORTLY." US REP PUT SOVIET REP ON NOTICE THAT THE WEST WOULD IN THE FUTURE OPERATE ON THE PRINCIPLE THAT, IF EITHER SIDE REQUESTED A PLENARY, IT SHOULD BE HELD. US REP ALSO SUGGESTED ON PERSONAL BASIS THAT SOVIET REP CONSIDER IDEA THAT WORKING GROUPS WHICH MAY BE ESTABLISHED DURING NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE OPEN ENDED. SOVIET REP ASKED WESTERN DELS FOR AN EXCHANGE OF PRELIMINARY VIEWS ON SUCH QUESTIONS AS PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES. END SUMMARY.

2. DANISH REP (POULSEN) NOTED THAT CANADIAN REP HAD SEVERAL TIMES CALLED ON SOVIET REP SEEKING TO ESTABLISH A SPECIFIC DATE FOR THE NEXT PLENARY. SOVIET REP HAD REPLIED HE WOULD NOT YET SET SUCH A DATE, AND HAD SAID THAT HE COULD CONSIDER HAVING ONLY ONE FINAL PLENARY. IN THE OPINION OF WESTERN DELS THIS SITUATION WAS UNSATISFACTORY BOTH IN PRACTICE AND IN PRINCIPLE. WESTERN DELS WOULD LIKE TO SET A TARGET DATE FOR THE NEXT PLENARY. DID THE SOVIET REP HAVE NEW INSTRUCTIONS WHICH WOULD ENABLE HIM TO SET A DATE FOR THE PLENARY?

3. SOVIET REP (KHLESTOV) SAID HE WOULD ONCE MORE PRESENT THE SITUATION AS THE SOCIALIST GROUP SAW IT. A PLENARY SHOULD BE HELD TO RATIFY THE RESULTS OF THE WORK DONE IN CONTACTS AMONG DELEGATIONS. THE DRAFT COMMUNIQUE WAS NOT FULLY APPROVED ON THE EASTERN SIDE. ONE PARAGRAPH (IMPLICITLY REFERENCE WAS TO " SCOPE AND TIMING" PHRASE) REMAINED TO BE APPROVED. THE SOVIET REP ANTICIPATED THAT IT WOULD BE APPROVED, AND SAID THAT ALL SOCIALIST DELEGATIONS HAD TAKEN MEASURES TO GET APPROVAL. MEANWHILE, FORTY- EIGHT HOURS HAD NOT YET ELAPSED SINCE AMBASSADOR GRANDE HAD CALLED TO PROVIDE VIEWS OF WESTERN SIDE -- VIEWS NOT ONLY OF NATO MINISTERS, BUT OF GOVERNMENTS. SOVIET REP HAD INFORMED SOCIALIST DELS AND THEY HAD ALL REPORTED TO CAPITALS.

4. CAPITALS WERE CONSIDERING THESE MATTERS. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, SOVIET REP SAW NO PURPOSE IN A PLENARY. FOR THREE WEEKS WESTERN SIDE HAD AGREED THAT A PLENARY WAS NOT NECESSARY. IT WOULD, IN THE VIEW OF THE EASTERN SIDE, BE BEST TO WAIT UNTIL REMAINING QUESTIONS WERE RESOLVED AND THEN HOLD A PLENARY TO APPROVE
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THE RESULTS OF THE WORK DONE IN CONTACTS SUCH AS THE PRESENT ONE.

5. SOVIET REP TURNED TO CZECH REP (LAHODA) FOR CONFIRMATION OF HIS STATEMENT OF VIEW OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. CZECH REP SAID SOCIALIST GROUP HAD MET ON JUNE 18 AFTER CANADIAN REP'S CALL ON SOVIET REP, AND AGREED IT WAS DESIRABLE TO WAIT FOR RESPONSES FROM THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO THE REPORTS THEY HAD SENT.

6. DANISH REP EXPLAINED THAT WESTERN DELS WERE NOT PRESSING FOR A PLENARY TODAY OR TOMORROW. THEY HAD BEEN PATIENT AND THEY RECOGNIZED THAT GOVERNMENTS MIGHT NEED TIME FOR REFLECTION. WESTERN DELS, HOWEVER, THOUGHT IT USEFUL TO SET A TARGET DATE FOR A PLENARY NEXT WEEK. THEY WOULD PROPOSE THURSDAY, JUNE 28.

7. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV REPLIED THAT IN HIS OPINION IT WOULD BE BEST TO WAIT UNTIL UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS WERE SETTLED AND THEN HOLD A FINAL PLENARY. HE AGREED, HOWEVER, TO PUT DANISH REP'S SUGGESTION TO HIS SOCIALIST COLLEAGUES. AS A PERSONAL VIEW, HE SAID HE WOULD PREFER TO HOLD A PLENARY EARLIER IF UNDECIDED QUESTIONS COULD BE RESOLVED SOONER. POLISH REP STRULAK HAD TOLD HIM THAT AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES WERE PREPARED TO HOLD A PLENARY ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY (JUNE 23 OR 24). PERHAPS IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO OR THREE IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO RESOLVE THE QUESTIONS WHICH WERE STILL OPEN AND THEN A PLENARY MIGHT BE HELD SOONER AND ALL OF THE DELEGATIONS MIGHT WITH SATISFACTION DEPART FOR THEIR CAPITALS. THE MAIN THING IN SOVIET REP'S VIEW WAS TO DECIDE THE UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS AND THEN TO HOLD A PLENARY.

8. US REP OBSERVED THAT WHAT WAS INVOLVED WAS SOLELY A PRACTICAL QUESTION. IT WAS NECESSARY TO BE SURE THE ROOM WAS READY, TO CHECK TRANSLATIONS, TO ARRANGE FOR JOINT DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMUNIQUE TEXT TO THE PRESS. FOR PRACTICAL PURPOSES ONE SHOULD PLAN FOR A REALISTIC TARGET DATE IN ORDER TO ARRANGE SUCH DETAILS. EMPHASIZING THAT THE DANISH REP SPOKE OF A "TARGET" DATE, HE REPEATED SUGGESTION FOR AN INFORMAL AGREEMENT TO AIR FOR THE DATE OF JUNE 28, WHICH HE CONSIDERED REALISTIC. SOVIET REP ASKED IF THERE WERE EARLIER RESOLUTION OF UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS, MIGHT THE PLENARY BE MOVED UP? US REP SAID IN THAT CASE, IT WOULD BE EARLIER. BOTH CZECHOSLOVAK REP AND SOVIET REP MOVCHAN ASKED WHETHER PLENARY AFTER THE TARGET DATE WAS PRECLUDED. US REP DID NOT EXCLUDE THIS POSSIBILITY EITHER. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV SAID HE UNDERSTOOD WESTERN PRO-SECRET

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POSAL TO BE TO ANTICIPATE HOLDING A PLENARY ON JUNE 28 ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT UNRESOLVED QUESTIONS WOULD BE DECIDED BY THEN. IF DECISIONS WERE REACHED SOONER, THE PLENARY MIGHT BE HELD SOONER, AND IF, UNFORTUNATELY, DECISIONS CAME LATER, THE PLENARY MIGHT BE LATER. HE REGARDED THE SUGGESTION AS A USEFUL ONE AND SAID HE WOULD RECOMMEND IT TO HIS COLLEAGUES.

9. US REP SAID THAT IF EAST AGREED TO JUNE 28 TARGET DATE, WESTERN DELS FELT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO PUT OUT A JOINT PRESS RELEASE INFORMING THE PUBLIC THAT A PLENARY MIGHT BE EXPECTED FAIRLY SOON IN ORDER ALSO TO INDICATE A CERTAIN CONTINUITY OF ACTIVITY IN VIENNA. DANISH AND US REPS HAVE SOVIET AND CZECHOSLOVAK REP DRAFT TEXT WHICH WAS AGREED IN AD HOC GROUP ON JUNE 19.

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ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 EUR-25

NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAI-01 IO-13 OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00

OMB-01 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /153 W
----- 025659

P R 221422 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9297

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

MBFR CAPITALS 592

USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

USCINCEUR

USDEL SALT TWO II

AMEMBASSY ATEHNS UNN

AMEMBASSY MADRID UNN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA UNN

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE UNN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI UNN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE UNN

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10. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV OBJECTED TO THE WORDS " NEXT WEEK," BECAUSE THEY MIGHT IMPLY THAT A PLENARY COULD NOT BE HELD EARLIER. US REP SUGGESTED WORD " SHORTLY" MIGHT MEAN ONE, TWO OR THREE WEEKS. US REP REPLIED THAT THE TERM WAS INDEFINITE, BUT MEANT " SOON." SOVIET REP AGREED TO INFORM HIS SOCIALIST COLLEAGUES ON THE PRESS STATEMENT AND TO REPORT THE RESULTS TO WESTERN REPS. HE SUGGESTED THAT CZECHOSLOVAK REP LAHODA, AS CHAIRMAN, MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE EASTERN SPOKESMAN FOR THIS PURPOSE. CZECHOSLOVAK REP SAID THAT RELEASE MIGHT BE DONE AS IT HAD BEEN LAST TIME, AND THOUGHT THAT MORNING OF JUNE 22 MIGHT BE SUITABLE
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TIME. US REP SUGGESTED AFTERNOON OF JUNE 21. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV SUGGESTED KEEPING OPEN BOTH POSSIBILITIES.

11. US REP SAID THAT BASED ON REMARKS OF KHLESTOV ON PLENARIES EARLIER IN THE PRESENT SESSION, HE WISHED TO RAISE MORE GENERAL ASPECT REGARDING PLENARIES, THEIR CONTENT AND THEIR TIMING. THE SOVIET REP HAD SUGGESTED THE USE OF PLENARIES TO CONFIRM WHAT HAD BEEN DISCUSSED IN SMALLER GROUPS. THAT WAS ONE POSSIBLE USE OF PLENARIES. US REP, HOWEVER, DID NOT THINK THAT IT SHOULD BE ANY MEANS BE CONSIDERED AS THE ONLY PURPOSE FOR PLENARIES. PLENARIES CAN BE USED AND HAVE BEEN USED HERE FOR THE PURPOSE OF GENERAL DISCUSSION OR FOR WHATEVER PURPOSE THE PARTICIPANTS WISHED. WESTERN DELS HAD FOR SEVERAL WEEKS SUGGESTED HOLDING A PLENARY FOR A GENERAL

DISCUSSION. THERE HAD BEEN TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST FOR A PLENARY ON THE 4 TH OF JUNE, THE 7 TH AND THE 12 TH. IN EACH CASE THE SOVIET REP HAD CONSIDERED IT REASONABLE NOT TO HOLD A PLENARY. ALLIED REPS HAD NOT RPT NOT AGREED THAT PLENARIES SHOULD BE POSTPONED. SOVIETS HAD INSISTED.

12. US REP DID NOT WANT TO ARGUE NOW ABOUT THE EAST' S REASONS ON EACH OCCASION. WHAT WESTERN DELS COULD NOT ACCEPT IS THE GENERAL POINT THAT PLENARIES WERE TO BE USED ONLY TO APPROVE THE RESULTS OF OTHER TALKS AND THAT THEY WERE NOT TO BE THE VEHICLE FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION

A SECOND IMPORTANT POINT HAD ARISEN FROM THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. US REP DID NOT PROPOSE TO PRESS THE MATTER TO A DECISION AT THAT MOMENT, UNLESS THE SOVIET REP WAS PREPARED TO AGREE WITH HIM, BUT IT WAS THE WESTERN VIEW THAT IF IT WAS DESIRED TO HOLD A PLENARY, THEN A PLENARY SHOULD BE CALLED. IT WAS NOT HIS DESIRE TO REVIEW THE REASONS FOR SOVIET REFUSAL TO HOLD PLENARIES IN PAST BUT TO CLARIFY SITUATION FOR THE FUTURE. US REP BELIEVED THAT THERE SHOULD BE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING ON THIS MATTER BOTH FOR THE PRESENT AND BEFORE THE NEGOTIATIONS STARTED SO THAT THERE WOULD BE NO DIFFICULTIES

OVER THE QUESTION OF PLENARIES LATER ON. THE SAME PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE USED IN BOTH CASES AND THERE WAS APPARENTLY A MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THEIR APPLICATION WHICH SHOULD BE SET STRAIGHT BY THOSE WHO HAD DRAFTED THOSE ARRANGEMENTS. US REP BELIEVED SOVIET REP PROBABLY AGREED WITH WHAT HE HAD SAID AND IF SO THERE SHOULD BE AN UNDERSTANDING ON THIS POINT.

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13. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV ASKED WHETHER US REP INTENDED TO REFER TO THE RIGHT OF ANY PARTICIPANT, INCLUDING BOTH DIRECT AND INDIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO CALL PLENARIES. US REP RESPONDED THAT HE HAD NOT THOUGHT OF THE MATTER IN THAT CONTEXT AND WAS NOT MAKING A DISTINCTION OF THIS KIND. IF SOVIET REP FELT THAT SOME DISTINCTION SHOULD BE MADE, HIS VIEWS ON THE MATTER MIGHT BE CONSIDERED. SOVIET REP ANSWERED THAT HE WAS NOT MAKING A DISTINCTION, HE WAS MERELY TRYING TO UNDERSTAND US REP' S STATEMENT. US REP EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS EXPRESSING THE FRUSTRATION WHICH THE WESTERN SIDE HAD FELT AT NOT BEING ABLE TO HOLD A PLENARY. IN THE FUTURE, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER TO ACCEPT IN ITS STRIDE WHATEVER INCONVENIENCE MIGHT BE OCCASIONED IN MEETING THE OTHER SIDE' S REQUEST TO HOLD A PLENARY. AS FOR THE PARTICULAR PHRASE, ONE MIGHT SAY " WHEN EITHER SIDE ASKS FOR A PLENARY, A PLENARY WILL TAKE PLACE." ONE NEED NOT SPECIFY A PARTICULAR DELEGATION.

14. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV PROMISED TO THINK ABOUT US REP' S REMARKS AND SAID THAT AS A GENERAL MATTER, HE FELT THAT THE QUESTION OF HOW AND WHEN PLENARIES WERE TO BE HELD SHOULD APPROPRIATELY BE DECIDED BY PARTICIPANTS IN A PARTICULAR CONFERENCE. THIS WOULD BE TRUE IN NATO, OR IN SALT TALKS, FOR EXAMPLE. IN PREPARATIONS FOR THESE CONSULTATIONS, THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

HAD CONSIDERED THE QUESTION OF HOW MANY PLENARIES SHOULD BE HELD AND THEY THOUGHT THAT ONCE A WEEK WOULD BE APPROPRIATE, BUT THEY DISCOVERED IN EACH CASE THAT THEY HAD HAD REASONS WHICH HE HOPED THE WESTERN SIDE HAD IN THE LONG RUN ACCEPTED FOR PUTTING OFF PLENARIES. IN THE FUTURE, THE QUESTION UNDER CONSIDERATION WOULD BE DIFFERENT IN NATURE FROM THOSE IN THE INITIAL CONSULTATIONS. THERE WOULD IN FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS BE WORKING GROUPS; THERE WOULD BE ALL SORTS OF ASPECTS SUCH AS TANKS AND AIRCRAFT TO BE CONSIDERED. THE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD BE QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THE PRESENT CONSULTATIONS, AND IT WOULD BE PRUDENT TO LEAVE THE QUESTION UNTIL THE NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES ACTUALLY BEGAN. SOVIET REP PROFESSED TO SEE AMBIGUITY IN THE TERM "SIDE". DID "SIDE" MEAN EAST AND WEST, OR DID "SIDE" MEAN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS? IN SHORT, SOVIET REP SAID, THIS DID NOT APPEAR TO BE A SUBJECT WHICH NEEDED TO BE DECIDED NOW. IT SEEMED WISER TO LEAVE THE QUESTION TO THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES.

15. US REP RESPONDED THAT WESTERN DELS HAD A SPECIFIC AND PRACTICAL PROBLEM. THE PRESENT PARTICIPANTS HAD WORKED OUT
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PROCEDURES BOTH FOR THE CONSULTATIONS AND FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS.
WESTERN DELGATIONS

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ACTION MBFR-03

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

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NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 IO-13 OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00

ACDA-19 OMB-01 RSR-01 /153 W

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P R 221422 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9298

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

MBFR CAPITALS 593

USMISSION GENEVA

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

USCINCEUR

USDEL SALT TWO

AMEMBASSY ATHENS UNN

AMEMBASSY MADRID UNN
AMEMBASSY SOFIA UNN
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE UNN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI UNN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE UNN

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GENEVA FOR DISTO

FROM US REP MBFR

HAD DISCOVERED THAT THEY HAD A PROBLEM IN CONVENING PLENARIES THAT NEEDED TO BE RESOLVED. WHEN SPEAKING OF SIDES, HE HAD MEANT EAST AND WEST. US REP EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS NOT NOW PROPOSING TO SET SOME SPECIFIC NUMBER OF PLENARIES FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS. THE WEST WANTED IT TO BE CLEAR IN PRINCIPLE THAT EITHER SIDE HAD THE RIGHT TO CALL A PLENARY. THIS WOULD BE EQUITABLE FOR
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ALL. THE US REP SAID WESTERN SIDE COULD NOT AGAIN GO THROUGH THE EXPERIENCE OF SETTING DATES FOR PLENARIES BUT NOT HOLDING THEM. A GAP IN THE AGREED PROCEDURES HAD BEEN REVEALED THROUGH THIS EXPERIENCE AND THERE WAS NOW A NEED FOR A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING. IT NEED NOT BE WRITTEN NOR PARTICULARLY FORMAL. US REP SAID THAT THIS REPRESENTED A PERFECTLY NORMAL INTERNATIONAL PROCEDURE AND THERE WAS NOTHING EXTRAORDINARY ABOUT IT.

16. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV SAID HE COULD ONLY REPEAT HIS FIRST IMPRESSION ON THE MATTER. THE VIENNA CONSULTATIONS HAD BEEN UNUSUAL IN ALMOST EVERY WAY. THEY HAD BEGUN WITHOUT A NAME. THE FIRST PLENARY HAD BEEN A MOST EXTRAORDINARY MEETING. THE WEST COULD NOT BLAME THE EAST FOR DELAYING IT MORE THAN THE WEST HAD DELAYED THE EAST. THE SITUATION WAS OUT OF THE ORDINARY IN MANY RESPECTS AND THAT HAS HAD ITS EFFECTS ON THE WORK WHENN THE CONFERENCE IS HELD, DECISIONS WILL HAVE TO BE MADE BY THE PEOPLE THERE. SOVIET REP COULD NOT AT THIS POINT MAKE A JUDGMENT AS TO WHETHER THE CONFERENCE SHOULD HOLD ONE OR TWO PLENARIES A WEEK. RATHER, HE FELT THAT DELS TO THE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE GIVNE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DECIDE THAT FOR THEMSELVES. TO THINK FOR A MOMENT IN ABSTRACT TERMS, THERE MIGHT PERHAPS BE Q WORKING GROUP ON AIR DEFENSES. IT COULD FINISH ITS WORK IN TWO WEEKS AND THEN REPORT TO THE PLENARIES. IT WOULD BE REALLY FOR THE DELEGATES THEMSELVES TO DECIDE WHEN TO HOLD SUCH A PLENARY. SOVIET REP BELIEVED THAT US REP HAD RAISED AN ARTIFICIAL QUESTION. ANY WESTERN COLLEAGUES WHO WERE WORRED ABOUT THE MATTER WERE OVERSTATING THE DANGERS. THEY WOULD HAVE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK IN PLENARIES. SOVIET REP RECALLED THAT EASTERN SIDE HAD FIRST PROPOSED ONE PLENARY PER WEEK AND SOME WESTERN DELEGATES WERE VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF THAT IDEA. NEVERTHELESS, BOTH SIDES HAD REACHED AGREEEMENT TO PUT OFF PLENARIES. IF ON THE PRESENT OCCASION

THE WESTERN SIDE HAD TAKEN EAST BY THE HAIR AND DRAGGED EASTERN REPS TO A PLENARY, IF THE QUESTION HAD BEEN ONE OF WHETHER WE WOULD HONOR OR VIOLATE A PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING, THE EAST WOULD HAVE HAD TO GO TO A PLENARY. THE VIENNA TALKS HAD, HOWEVER, THUS FAR TAKEN PLACE IN A GENGLEMENLY FASHION AND HE CONSIDERED NOT HOLDING A PLENARY HAD BEEN HELPFUL FOR THE SUBSTANCE. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, ANY DELEGATIONS WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN " BLOODTHRISTY" FOR A PLENARY WOULD ONLY HAVE GOTTEN UNPLEASANTNESS FOR THEIR TROUBLE. SOVIET REP CON-
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CLUDED THAT THERE WAS NOTHING TO BE DECIDED NOW ON SUCH AN ARTIFICIAL QUESTION.

17. US REP NOTED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE PRESENT CONSULTATIONS WERE TO WORK OUT PROCEDURES FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS AS WELL AS THE INITIAL TALKS. AGREED PROCEDURES HAD BEEN WORKED OUT BUT IN APPLYING THEM SPECIFIC PROBLEM HAD COME UP. AS A MATTER OF RECORD, THE WEST HAD NOT AGREED TO POSTPONE PLENARIES. THE PRESENT ISSUE WAS NOT ONE OF TRYING TO SET DATES NOW FOR SIX MONTHS IN ADVANCE, NOR EVEN OF SAYING HOW MANY PLENARY MEETINGS SHOULD BE HELD PER WEEK. IT WAS A MATTER OF ESTABLISHING THE SIMPLE PRINCIPLE THAT WHEN EITHER SIDE WANTS A PLENARY, IT WILL BE HELD. THIS, OBVIOUSLY WAS EQUITABLE, AND WAS AN OBVIOUS CONCLUSION FROM EXPERIENCE IN THE PRESENT CONSULTATIONS. US REP PUT SOVIET REP ON NOTICE THAT WEST WOULD OPERATE ON THIS PRINCIPLE IN THE FUTURE. SOVIET REP INDICATED HE UNDERSTOOD THIS WOULD BE WESTERN POSITION.

18. US REP SAID THAT SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE WISHED TO PUT A QUESTION TO THE SOVIET REP FOR HIS FUTURE CONSIDERATION. US REP SAID THAT WITH RESPECT TO CREATION OF WORKING GROUPS DURING THE NEGOTIATIONS, HIS OWN EXPERIENCE HAD LED HIM TO A CLEAR CONCLUSION, THE CREATION OF WORKING GROUPS WOULD PORBABLY BE DESIRABLE AND THERE PROBABLY WILL BE SEVERAL. US REP'S ONW CONCLUSION WAS THAT WORKING GROUPS SHOULD BE OPEN- ENDED. THEY SHOULD BE OPEN TO ANY PARTICIPANT WHO WISHED TO JOIN. AGREEMENT ON THIS CONCEPT WOULD AVOID POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES IN DECIDING ON COMPOSITION OF WORKING GROUPS; THE QUESTION WOULD THUS NOT EVEN ARISE. US REP NOTED THAT HE WAS MERELY ASKING SOVIET REP TO THINK THIS OVER FOR THE FUTURE.

19. DANISH REP STATED THAT HE SUPPORTED US REP BOTH WITH RESPECT TO NEED FOR AN UNDERSTANDING ABOUTCALLING PLENARIES AND ON PARTICIPATION IN WORKING GROUPS.

20. SOVIET REP RESPONDED IN JOCLAR VIEN THAT AFTER FOUR AND A HALF MONTHS US REP HAD COME TO APPRECIATE ORIGINAL SOVIET PROPOSAL TO INVITE EVERYBODY TO INITIAL CONSULTATIONS SOVIET REP SAID HE WOULD THINK ABOUT US REP'S REMARKS FURTHER AND THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE QUESTION OF PRATICIPATION OF FLANK COUNTRIES AS WELL AS DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN WORKING GROUPS WAS INVOLVED. US REP

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REPLIED THAT HE THOUGH ANY PARTICIPANT INCLUDING FLANK COUNTRIES SHOULD TAKE PART IN WORKING ROUPS OF INTEREST TO THEM, THOUGH IN CASE OF SPECIAL PARTICIPANTS, THEY CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS. US REP SAID HE WAS GLAD TO SEE SOVIET REP AGREED WITH HIM. SOVIET REP RESPONDED THAT SO FAR HE HAD NOT AGREED BUT HAD MERELY WANTED TO UNDERSTAND US VIEW MORE CLEARLY.

21. SOVIET REP SAID THAT THERE WERE SOME OTHER QUESTIONS WHICH EASTERN SIDE WISHED TO DISCUSS INCLUDING RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIAN AUTHORITIES AND PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES. IT WOULD BE USEFUL, HE SAID, IF ESTERN DELS WOULD THINK ABOUT THESE QUESTIONS AND EXPRESS SOME PRELIMINARY IDEAS ABOUT THE. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV ALSO ASKED HOW WESTERN DELS TO THE NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE ORGAINIZED. US REP SUGGESTED THAT TIME WAS SHORT SINCE HE HAD TO LEAVE ON A TRIP AND IF SOVIETS WISHED TO RAISE ISSUES OF THIS KIND, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO HOLD A FURTHER SESSION ON JUNE 22 AT WHICH POINT, SOVIETS COULD LIST THE POINTS THEY CONSIDERED IT DESIRABLE TO RESOLVE BEFORE THE PRESENT DELEGATIONS LEFT VIENNA AND ALLIED REPS COULD TAKE UP THESE POINTS WITH THEIR COLLEAGUES. HUMES

SECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973VIENNA05195
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730635/abqcelmh.tel
Line Count: 458
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION MBFR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 9
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <14-Sep-2001 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980227
Subject: MEETING OF DANISH AND US REPS WITH SOVIET AND CZECH REPS, JUNE 20
TAGS: PARM
To: STATE INFO SECDEF C
MBFR CAPITALS
GENEVA
USNMR SHAPE E
USLOSACLANT
USDOCOSOUTH
USCINCEUR

SALT TWO II
ATHENS UNN
MADRID UNN
SOFIA UNN
PRAGUE UNN
HELSINKI UNN
BELGRADE UNN

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005